

Message Text

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43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20

RSC-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SAJ-01 DRC-01

/095 W

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R 081448Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7647

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION BERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0790

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB, PL, GE, CZ

SBUEJCT: GKR SITUATION IN EAST BERLIN AND PRAGUE

REF: (A) WARSAW 0180; (B) PRAGUE 0254

1. GKR EMBASSY COUNSELOR INFORMED US FEB 8 THAT HE WAS TELEPHONED LATE FEB 7 FROM BERLIN BY PONG KIN KOAN, WHO TOLD HIM THAT TIEP NOW DENIES THAT HE HAS DEFECTED TO THE GRUNK AND HAS ASKED PONG TO WORK WITH HIM. PONG, WHO IS NEW AND POLITICALLY INEXPERIENCED, SEEMED AFRAID AND UNCERTAIN WHAT TO DO. CONSELOR ADVISED HIM TO REPORT TO PHNOM PENH FOR INSTRUCTIONS.

2. COUNSELOR ALSO RAISED QUESTION ABOUT SITUATION IN PRAGUE. HIS INFORMATION CORRESPONDS TO THAT REPORTED REF B. HOWEVER, HE BELIEVES SCENARIO THERE MAY BE SIMILAR TO WHAT TRANSPIRED EARLIER IN EAST BERLIN, NAMELY, GRUNK CONSPIRED WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO MOVE INTO EMBASSY THAT WAS SIMPLY VACATED BY GKR WITHOUT
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FORCING QUESTION OF BREAK IN RELATIONS. HE POINTS OUT

THAT GKR CHARGE IN PRAGUE HAS BROTHER IN GRUNK AND ALSO
THAT IT WAS PROTOCOL OFFICE RATHER THAN GEOGRAPHIC DESK
THAT CALLED IN CHARGE.

3. FOR BERLIN: GKR COUNSELOR ASKS THAT USBER CONTACT
PONG AND CAUTION HIM AGAINST TRUSTING OR DEALING WITH
TIEP WHOSE SUDDEN TURN-ABOUT COUNSELOR BELIEVES IS DIS-
INGENUOUS.

4. FOR PRAGUE: GDR COUNSELOR WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR
VERIFYING SITUATION THROUGH OTHER SOURCES, TO THE EXTENT
FEASIBLE.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO WAY OF ASSESSING GKR
COUNSELOR'S JUDGEMENTS ON THESE MATTERS, WE DO NOT QUESTION
HIS SINCERITY AND COMPETENCE. SIMILARLY, ALTHOUGH THE
BYZANTINE ASPECTS OF THE CAMBODIAN SITUATION DESCRIBED ARE
BEYOND OUR ABILITY TO ASSESS, THE POLES AT LEAST, SEEM
RELUCTANT SO FAR TO FORCE AN OUTRIGHT BREAK IN RELATIONS
WITH THE GKR. THUS, PERHAPS THE MORE SUBTLE SCENARIO DES-
CRIBED BY GKR COUNSELOR IS NOT UNFOUNDED.

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